

P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

(10:03 a.m.)

CHAIRMAN WEIDENBAUM: Good morning. It is my pleasure to open this hearing of the congressionally mandated Commission to review the trade deficit.

I'm especially pleased to welcome this morning the distinguished Senior Senator from West Virginia, who sponsored the legislation establishing our Commission.

And I am also pleased to recognize the Senior Senator from Maryland, who is also joining us. Senator Sarbanes is a cosponsor of our legislation. At this point, I am pleased to recognize Senator Byrd.